

The Chronicle and Directory for 1872.

NOW READY.

THIS work, now in the TENTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery. It has been compiled and printed at the Daily Press Office, and is the best and most authentic source, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the value of the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1872" will be further augmented by the addition of a Chromo-lithograph plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT THE PEAK.

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS.

(Designed expressly for this work.)
MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN, AND THE COAST OF CHINA.

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

The Directory will be published in Two Parts, Complete at \$5, or with the Lists of Residents, Port Directors, Maps, &c., at \$3.

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The delivery of the Daily Press from this office commences on Tuesday morning at 10.30, and the last messenger leaves the office at 10.40.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 14th, 1872.

It is of course only fair in commenting upon the action taken by the Government with reference to the suppression of gambling, to give due consideration to the difficulties with which they are surrounded, but even making every possible allowance of this kind, the plan which they have adopted cannot be considered as in every way ill-advised.

The tributing powers of the Chinese are no doubt enormous. The amount paid for the gambling licenses is sufficient to establish this, and the Executive may well be afraid of making the attempt to put down illicit gambling, when they know that the Chinese are willing to pay between \$200,000 and \$250,000 a year for the privilege. A fact like this cannot be ignored; and we are free to admit that it might be considered a valid ground for not interfering with gambling as all either licensing it on the one hand, or endeavoring to suppress it on the other. But as already pointed out, we are not justified in altogether giving up the attempt to put down gambling until we have as good a Police Force as can be got, and have made the attempt with their assistance.

At present, the licenses to the public gaming houses have been withdrawn, but the Government hesitates to take any practical steps to carry the matter further. The Police Force is withdrawn from all interference with public gaming-houses, for fear that they may be bribed, and unless the measure adopted in the appointment of Messrs. DEANE and SMITH to put down public gaming houses is such as can be considered efficient, we are in the position of allowing such establishments to continue; and it is well that should be distinctly recognized the fact.

What, then, is the value of this measure? So little as is yet known about it, that it is difficult to speak very positively on the subject; but still a shrewd guess can be made from the nature of the matter, how far they must, of course, be either directly or indirectly dependent upon Chinese sources of information as to the existence of public gaming houses, and we are really curious to know by what line of reasoning the Government has come to the conclusion that it will be possible to trust to Chinese informants for information which they would not be able to obtain from European constables, because the latter would be open to bribery. Only one argument can be suggested, and that is, that while in the case of the Police the Chinese know whom to bribe, in the case of native informants they will not know a view which may have some appearance of plausibility among those who are not acquainted with the ways in which the Chinese work in such matters; but which must appear obviously false to any one in the slightest degree conversant with them.

With the knowledge that gaming-houses are willing to give enormous sums to be left unmolested, Chinese "informers" will easily discover on which side of the way they are likely to get best paid, and will take good care not to keep themselves hidden, but to make themselves very well known indeed. The two officials appointed as Suppressors-General of gambling, will soon find that they can, as a rule, obtain information only from one or two Chinese men—their lead-clerks, teachers, or other confidential individuals; and those gentlemen, if they are different from all other Chinese, will easily arrange with the various gaming houses to receive so much cash money, making use of their powers as informants to obtain this sum. The result will then simply be that gambling will go on in Hongkong precisely as before, the only difference being that the fees will go to the non-informing Chinese informants instead of to the Special Fund; and, indeed, in all likelihood, it will be discovered that the whole affair will remain in the hands of one man—possibly the old gambling license—who will pay a fixed sum of cash money to the immediate informants of Messrs. DEANE and SMITH, on the understanding that no gaming houses are to be reported to the Government, but those which he chooses to denounce. Under the arrangement which, so far as is known, has been made, the Chinese interested in gambling houses have obtained precisely what they wanted. Their only object is to get the police out of the way; and then, they know perfectly well, they can do exactly what they like. Into this plan the Executive have played with a readiness which is truly edifying, as an illustration of childlike simplicity and trust. If Messrs. DEANE and SMITH could be ubiquitous, the plan decided upon might have some chance of succeeding; but as it is, it must depend entirely upon the native informants, who, as the police are strictly prohibited from giving information concerning gaming houses, will have matters entirely their own way—with what results we leave people of less confiding dispositions than H. E. Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL, and his Executive Council to judge for themselves.

An above said, we do not ignore the difficulties in the way of suppressing gambling, but we emphatically assert that, in the step taken, nothing has been done worthy of being for a moment considered a "suppressive measure"; and if Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL did not feel prepared to do anything more effectual than enact this law, he had better have contented himself with simply withdrawing the gaming licenses, and postponing repressive measures, if they were to be undertaken at all, to some more convenient season. All that has now been done amounts to the schoolboy trick of mailing down the barometer before a holiday in order to secure fine weather.

H. E. the Governor will open the Chinese Hospital to-day at 2.30 p.m.

The Band of H.M. 10th Regiment will not perform in the Public Gardens to-day, being Ash Wednesday.

In giving the list of passengers by the steamer *Melina*, from Shanghai, an error was made in the names of Mr. and Mrs. Everett Freyer, which were returned as Mr. and Mrs. Freyer.

Twenty-three out of the twenty-five new constables arrived by the steamer *Glasgow*, were sworn in yesterday at the Police Court, before the presiding magistrate, Mr. J. E. Q. before two not being able to attend, through their detention at the Government Civil Hospital on the occasion of their examination. They are all strong looking men, and as tall as the last number arrived lately. We may now congratulate ourselves on having a goodly number of men for an efficient police force, if they are only properly managed.

We regret to hear that it is likely the Colonel may, after all, be disappointed in not witnessing Mr. Heller's entertainment. Mr. Smith, under whose auspices Mr. Heller comes here, has been endeavoring to engage the City not being able to attend, through their detention at the Government Civil Hospital on the occasion of their examination. They are all strong looking men, and as tall as the last number arrived lately. We may now congratulate ourselves on having a goodly number of men for an efficient police force, if they are only properly managed.

There is not a little too much zeal about this fire cracker business. The Chinese will indulge in the luxury at New Year's time, and it is absolutely to be prohibited the next day, at least no notice should be given, since they do not appear to have been so much interested in the habit, however stupid it may be, cannot be altogether put down; and at such a time as China New Year, it seems a little beneath the dignity of the Law to interfere with a harmless custom, and to let the Chinese know the times during which the firing will be permitted would probably meet all the necessities of the matter.

A case which came before the Summary Court yesterday, again calls attention to the defective judicial arrangements in the Colony, which it is to be hoped will be soon remedied by the proposed reforms for the reform of the Courts. In the case alluded to, the Queen obtained a judgment against a debtor. The matter was so simple that the proceedings were really very formal, but still it is very interesting that the Attorney-General, a member of the Government, should be called upon to hear a case in the Court.

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the purchase of such provisions, and the defendant admitted the necessity of the same, simply pleading the partnership, which he sought to prove by calling a third cook, who had heard both the others state to him that they were partners in the prosecution. The defendant's plea was rejected, and he was committed to prison for not being able to give evidence in his own defense. Judgment for the plaintiff.

OW A-KONG v. TANG ACHONG—\$30.00, on a promissory note for \$20.00, carrying interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum from the 21st August, 1870. Defendant admitted the note, but at first denied liability for interest. He further alleged payment of \$11.00. Plaintiff gave credit for \$4 received on account of interest. His Honor thought the plaintiff's story more probable, especially as the defendant had not first disputed the interest. Judgment for the plaintiff.

V. BROWN v. T. W. BROWN—\$16.00, on a promissory note. Defendant, who is master of the Chinese bark *Goh*, admitted the note, but denied liability for interest. He further alleged payment of \$11.00. Plaintiff gave credit for \$4 received on account of interest. His Honor thought the plaintiff's story more probable, especially as the defendant had not first disputed the interest. Judgment for the plaintiff.

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Post-Office Notifications.

A mail will close.

The time of closing the Mails for Manila, for Sumatra, will be notified shortly after the arrival of the United States Mail Packet, now about due.

For Singapore, Penang, and Calcutta.--Per Indian Mail Packets *Generalary* and *Hindustan*, to-morrow, the 15th instant, at 1.30 p.m.

MAILS BY THE "PENANG PACKET"

The French Mail Packet "MEIKONG," will be dispatched on THURSDAY, the 15th inst., at noon, with the Mails—
To Saigon, Singapore, Point de Gaile, India, Aden, Seydhelles, Reunion and Mauritius, Suez, Alexandria, France and other Continental States (in a closed mail to France), and to and through the United Kingdom *via* Marseilles.
Letters for Registration will be received until 10 a.m. on the 15th instant.

The Post Office will be open for the reception of Ordinary Letters, Newspapers, Books, &c., until 11 A.M. on the 15th instant, after which no Letters can be received.

Money Orders on any of the Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom will be granted until 5 P.M. on the 14th instant.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 7th February, 1872.

MAILS BY THE "ENGLISH PACKET."
The English Contract Packet "**TRAVAN-COREN**" will be dispatched with the usual Mails for Europe, &c., on **THURSDAY**, the 22nd instant, at noon.

Money Orders on any of the Money Order Offices in the United Kingdom will be granted until 5 P.M. on the 21st instant.

The Post-Office will be open until 3 P.M. on

Letters, &c., may be posted during the night in the box left open for their reception.
Letters for registration will be received until 10 A.M. on the 22nd instant.
Letters may be posted until 10 A.M. on the 22nd instant, without late fee.
Letters posted after 10 A.M. on the 22nd instant, will not be forwarded unless the *Late Fee* of 18 cents each as well as the postage is prepaid.

The Latest time for posting Letters at this Office is 11 A.M., and for Newspapers, Books, or Patterns 10 A.M. on the 22nd instant.

Late letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom *via* Brindisi, or to Singapore, may be posted on board the Packet from 11.30 A.M. to the time of sailing, on payment of a *Late Fee* of 48 cents each in addition to the postage.

— F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

General Post-Office,
Hongkong, 8th February, 1872.

It is hereby notified that henceforward the postage, *which must be paid in advance*, on each Newspaper, not exceeding four ounces in weight, posted at this office or at any of the British Postal Agencies in China or Japan, addressed to the United Kingdom to be forwarded by British Packet via Brindisi, will be six cents instead of eight cents as hitherto, and

that the postage on each Newspaper addressed to the United States of America and to other places sent in transit through the United Kingdom by this route will be reduced by two cents.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster-General.

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 29th January, 1872.

British Columbia having become a part of

the Dominion of Canada, all correspondence for that Province (including that for Vancouver's Island,) will henceforth be chargeable with the same rates of Postage, and will be subject to the same regulations of transmission, as correspondence for other parts of Canada, viz. :—

<i>For each half</i>	<i>For each News-</i>
<i>paper or</i>	<i>paper or</i>
<i>Price Current,</i>	<i>Price Current,</i>

When sent via Southampton.

When sent via Brindisi.....	25	0
When sent per French Packet.....	34	10
Packet.....	36	8
<i>For each of owners of Books or Passes of Fairma.</i>		
When sent via Southampton.....	12	16
When sent via Brindisi.....	13	16
When sent per French Packet.....	16	16

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General
General Post Office,
Hongkong, 15th January, 1872.

It is hereby notified for general information
that, the Postage (which must be paid in ad-
vanced) upon letters addressed to Prince Ed-
ward Island, will henceforward be as follows,
viz. —
When forwarded via

Bindial..... 42 cents each half-ounce.
 When forwarded via
 Marseilles..... 36 cents each half-ounce.
 When forwarded via
 Southampton..... 28 cents each half-ounce.
 F. W. MITCHELL,
 Postmaster General.
 General Post-Office.
 Hongkong, 28th July, 1870.

Italy..... 16 cents for each 4 oz
Switzerland.....
The German States.....

Addressed	Austria.....	24	30	30	30
	Belgium.....				
	The Netherlands.....				
	Denmark.....	32			
	Heligoland.....		70	77	80
	Sweden.....				
	Norway.....	46	30	35	35
	Russia.....				

For a Newspaper For each four
or Price copies of Book
Current. Packets and
Packet Patterns

Addressed to	Italy.....	2 cts.	6 cts.
	Switzerland.....		
	The German States.....	4 "	8 "
	Austria.....		
	Belgium.....		
	The Netherlands.....		
	Denmark.....		
	Holigoland.....	4 "	12 "
	Sweden.....		
	Norway.....		
Russia.....			

The prepayment of the postage on ordinary Letters is optional.

The postage on registered Letters must be prepaid; the charge for registration being the same sum as the postage on each Letter.

The prepayment of the postage on Newspapers, other printed papers and Pockets of Patterns is compulsory.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

It is hereby notified that the postage chargeable upon *Paid Letters* addressed to France will henceforward be 12 cents per quarter ounce when forwarded by French Mail Packet, and 18 cents per quarter ounce when forwarded by British Mail Packet.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 20th December, 1871.

It is hereby notified that arrangements have been completed under which correspondence from Hongkong may be forwarded to Nagasaki (via Shanghai), and to Hiogo via Yokohama, by United States' Mail Packets, and that Letters for Hongkong and places beyond Hongkong may be forwarded from Nagasaki and Hiogo by means of the United States' Packets.

The rates of postage chargeable on such correspondence is four cents for each half-ounce on Letters, two cents on each Newspaper, and two cents on each two ounces of Books and Packets of Samples of Merchandise, in addition to the Rates specified in the Table of Rates of Postage at present in force.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General,

General Post Office,
Hongkong, 16th January, 1871.

Extracts.

(Liberated Review.)

Sloth, after it reaches a certain point, becomes a disease, which is destructive in all its phases. Suffering under it, a man is almost powerless to do anything, and he may be fully conscious of the extent to which it is injuriously affecting both his intellectual and physical attributes. He more frequently than not remains in the same dull, lethargic, miserable state—depressing himself and regarded with contempt by the world—until the final depths of his degradation are reached, and he becomes the wreck of his former self. Did not Dr. Johnson fall a victim to this distressing malady, the effect being that he used to lie in bed till noon, and in one instance, if not more, failed to do any work for which he had been paid until many years had elapsed, being then absolutely galled on "by the sharp rebukes of public writers? This is matter of history. But the poor, pompous, pugnacious doctor is not singular in this respect. Most men, during some period of their lives, suffer to some extent, the difference being that many, by a strong effort of will or assisted by circumstances, succeed in nipping the disease in the bud, while others let it attain such headway that they are thenceforward completely at its mercy. This is the position occupied by the modern lazzarone. He is the aptest slave of sloth, being unable to power nor the inclination to about to avert the ruin, the misery, and disgrace which are hanging over his head. He would rather go without his dinner than do a day's work in order to obtain it, and is content to sleep under a haystack or a hedge, if it involves any very great exertion on his part to obtain the luxury of a bed. He can endure hunger, or thirst, or cold, or wet, or the ungodliest drizzle, and contempt of the world—anything but regular, settled, honest work. He will go wandering over the country—more at risk with his fellow-men than ever he was luckless descendant of Ishmael—robbing a henhouse here or supplanting the price of a glass there, so weary that he can hardly drag one leg before the other, in wind or rain, frost or snow, or in the boiling sun which shrivels up his flesh into parchment in preference to labouring in a comfortable workshop, for wages which would, at any rate, enable him to live comfortably and decently. If, by some fortunate fluke, he becomes the possessor of a sum of money, he does not keep any portion of it as a reserve fund for those bad times which are constantly overtaking him. No; he acquires some dirty parcel, and sits himself down to drink, smoke, or just as long as his money will last. Never, if he has enough in his pocket for present necessities, does he put himself to any inconvenience to add to his store. Prudence and foresight are, apparently, qualities which he does not possess—at any rate, if he possesses them, they are not sufficiently developed to induce him to do so. He is content to let the dirty bar-parlour—long as he can help it. There he will remain, holding forth, after the manner of Dr. Johnson—being quite as dogmatic in his statements as the learned pedant himself—to all who will listen to him. Politics, metaphysics, theology, and sciences all come to him, for he has thought and formed distinct opinions upon each subject. He criticises the policy of a Prime Minister in very foreign languages and talk about religion in a style which would astonish many theological warriors, and, at the same time, puzzle them not a little. His views are distorted and his reasoning weak, but it is a mistake to set him down as a muddle-brained fool. He often possesses a fund of information—may be, much of it is not reliable—but there remains a fact that he possesses much that is. He has studied Holy Writ, and is not unacquainted with the grand conceptions of Shakespeare, while he has evolved out of his own mind a system of political economy, somewhat starting in its originality, and which is not at all in accord with the theories propounded by Adam Smith, Mill, or Bastiat, who, however, he is not afraid to assert he holds in unqualified contempt. And, what is more, he can say what he thinks. Hear him talking about the wrongs of society and the State inflict upon him, and this will at once be admitted. He possesses cunning enough to induce him to pretend that it is not his fault that he is idle, and poor, and degraded, but the fault of those who have charge of the State. He is generally listened to with much attention and outward respect, which is very surprising, seeing that he possesses a fund of dry lumber and mere anecdote. So clear—though essentially clever—is his conversation, that people are often led to inquire how it happens that he is not found in a more respectable position. It must be repeated that it is because he is lazy and vicious, because he will not work, preferring to live, like an unowned dog, from hand to hand, than by the sweat of any man, or subject to fixed rules and conditions. He is so slow to keep himself clean or to comb his hair; so lazy, in short, to do anything but eat, drink, and talk. He only leaves his pot-house willingly when his money is done, because he knows that, if he does not do so, he would be turned out. He goes forth reluctant enough to beg and steal, to encounter all the vagaries of the night, about street-corners or proms along the hedges of the high-road, with bent head and shuffling gait, looking the poor, mean, pitiful creature that his sloth and his accompanying vices have made him.

Intimations.

(Liberated Review.)

Such is the lazar. How does he contract the terrible disease which blights his existence? There are times of enforced idleness, even in the most prosperous countries—times when men are helpless to do and do, and for the want of something better to do, haunt the public-houses and the street-corners. The good times come again, but the men do not readily return to their old ways, and work willingly by times and rule. It is long before they can run in the same groove, and a proportion never can do so, for the idle, listless life has such charms for them that they cannot quit it. They may make a profession of working, but are quite unable to sustain the deception, and so they gradually sink lower and lower, and become lazier and lazier, until they can beg without shame, and steal without being troubled by twinges of conscience. Indeed, after they have reached this stage, they are never in a happier state of mind than when they are engaged in their vices, and by some paltry deception, an unfortunates what. And what is the end of the lazar? What could it be but the workhouse or the gaol? Or are our paupers but the children of laziness or loafers themselves? And this is only what might be expected. There are, of course, a few of the able members of the fraternity who are more successful. They succeed, perhaps, in getting a position, and agitate on behalf of "the people" living, usefully, upon the labour of their dupes, by whom they are regarded as beings of resplendent intellect and unwavering virtue, who have had their fortunes blighted by selfish statesmen. The pot-house agitators are careful to favour this belief, and actuated by personal considerations, keep the passions of those whom they deceive to boiling point. Now, the lazar—whether pot-house politician, card-sharp, pauper, or simple vagabond—is a danger and a pest to society: what is to be done with him? Why should honest people be compelled to keep him and his progeny? Because he suffers from the disease, sloth? Then stamp out the disease.

Intimations.

(Liberated Review.)

There has been an extensive discovery of human remains during the process of removing some old foundations at the works of the Harrington-street. Two perfect skeletons, and a large number of skulls and detached bones. It seems that the spot upon which that of the neighbouring land, a portion of a disused parish burial-ground.

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